

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5 1 A method for rating a cruise based on pricing data
for the cruise for a predetermined period of time
comprising:

 identifying one or more price affecting factors;

 calculating a one or more correlation coefficient for
10 each of the one or more price affecting factors; and

 calculating a cruise rating based on the pricing data,
the one or more price affecting factors, and the one or more
correlation coefficients.

15 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one
price affecting factor is comprised of at least one of
price, season, cruise itinerary, cruise length, at least one
port of call, geographic region, port of embarkation, port
20 of disembarkation, date of sail, proximity to a holiday,
proximity to a school break, and ship's age.

 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined
period of time is at least one year.

25 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 after calculating the price index based on the pricing
data and the identified correlation, comparing the price
index for each of the one or more cruise ships with the
30 pricing data over a predetermined period of time;

 if comparison does not exceed a predetermined value,
identifying one or more additional correlation between the
pricing data and at least one price affecting factor; and

35 calculating a new price index based on the pricing data
and the identified one or more additional correlation.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

5 after calculating the price index based on the pricing data and the identified correlation, comparing the price index for each of the one or more cruise ships with the pricing data over a predetermined period of time;

10 if comparison does not exceed a predetermined value, obtaining new pricing data for the cruise for a predetermined period of time;

 identifying one or more correlation between the new pricing data and at least one price affecting factor; and

15 calculating a new price index based on the new pricing data and the identified correlation.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

20 determining an average price index for one or more cruise ships of a particular cruise line; and

 calculating a price index of the particular cruise line based on the average price index.

25 7. A method for rating a cruise based on pricing data for the cruise for a predetermined period of time comprising:

 determining price per diem of the cruise; and

30 calculating a price index based on the price per diem of the cruise.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the price index is equal to the price per diem.

35 9. The method of claim 7, wherein the price index is directly proportional to the price per diem.

5 10. A method for rating a cruise ship based on prices
for one or more cruise ships over a predetermined period of
time comprising:

calculating a daily price for each of the one or more
cruise ships using at least one price affecting factor;

10 comparing the daily price for each of the one or more
cruise ships with a pricing data for that ship over a
predetermined period of time; and

15 if comparison exceeds a predetermined value,
calculating a price index of each cruise ship based on the
daily price for each one of the one or more cruises.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising:

determining an average price of all daily prices for
each of the one or more cruise ships; and

20 assigning a cruise rating for each one of the one or
more cruise ships based on the average price.

12. The method of claim 10, further comprising:

25 calculating a range of daily prices of the one or more
cruise ships; and

30 determining a cruise rating for the one or more cruise
ships based on comparison of the daily price of the one or
more cruise ships with the range of daily prices of the one
or more cruise ships.

13. The method of claim 10 wherein the predetermined
period of time is at least one year.

35 14. The method of claim 10 wherein the predetermined
value is a set value of a correlation coefficient.

5 15. The method of claim 10 wherein the predetermined value is a set percentage.

10 16. A method for evaluating a cruise price being charged by a vendor based on pricing data for a one or more cruises for a predetermined period of time comprising:

10 creating a regression formula based on the pricing data, where the regression formula is a function of at least one price affecting factor;

15 calculating an expected price of a specific cruise based on the value of at least one price affecting factor of the specific cruise and the regression formula; and

15 comparing the cruise price being with the expected price.

20 17. The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of displaying the comparison between the cruise price and the expected price in a medium.

25 18. The method of claim of 17, wherein the medium is at least one of an electronic medium, a print medium, a sound medium, and a paper medium.

30 19. The method of claim 16, wherein the step of calculating an expected price of the cruise based on the pricing data and the identified correlation comprises:

30 calculating a price index based on the pricing data and the identified correlation; and

35 calculating the expected price of the cruise based on the price index.

20. The method of claim 16, wherein the at least one price affecting factor is comprised of at least one of price, season, cruise itinerary, cruise length, at least one port of call, geographic region, port of embarkation, port of disembarkation, date of sail, proximity to a holiday, proximity to a school break, and ship's age.

21. The method of claim 16, wherein the predetermined period of time is at least one year.

22. The method of claim 16, wherein the step of calculating an expected price of the cruise comprises:

calculating a price index based on the pricing data and the identified correlation;

comparing the price index with the pricing data for a second predetermined period of time;

if comparison does not exceed a predetermined value, identifying one or more additional correlation between the pricing data and the at least one price affecting factor,

calculating a new price index based on the pricing data and the identified one or more correlation, and

calculating the expected price of the cruise based on the new price index.

23. The method of claim 16 wherein the step of calculating an expected price of the cruise comprises:

calculating a price index based on the pricing data and the identified correlation,

comparing the price index with the pricing data for a second predetermined period of time,

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 if comparison does not exceed a predetermined value,
obtaining new pricing data for the cruise for a
5 predetermined period of time,

 identifying one or more correlation between the new
pricing data and at least one price affecting factor,

 calculating a new price index based on the new pricing
data and the identified correlation, and

10 calculating the expected price of the cruise based on
the new price index.

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